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Dear Annual Growth Report Reader:

I am pleased to provide you with a copy of the 2006 King County Annual Growth Report (AGR). This is the twenty-fourth report in a series providing population, economic, and development information for decision makers in the public and private sectors in King County. Since publication of the first AGR in 1983, this resource book has become one of the county's most respected and widely used documents.

King County's Office of Management and Budget prepared the 2006 AGR using data from the county and each of its 39 cities. The AGR includes a one page statistical profile on each city and a similar profile of ten "potential annexation areas" (PAA) in unincorporated King County. I hope you will find this demographic, job, and housing information useful in understanding your community, and in your life at home, at work and in community decision-making.

This year's AGR provides updated information about housing units, jobs, residential construction, and land development. The report highlights data about the potential annexation areas which are slated for early annexation to cities, and includes a new table of residential construction by PAA. Tables, graphs, text, and maps portray the different communities of people and landscape that make King County a wonderful place to live. Chapter two of the AGR summarizes the King County Benchmark Program which helps us monitor and maintain our excellent quality of life.

If you have questions about the AGR, please call Chandler Felt, King County Demographer, at 206-205-0712. I hope you enjoy this document and refer to it frequently.

Sincerely,

Ron Sims

King County Executive